

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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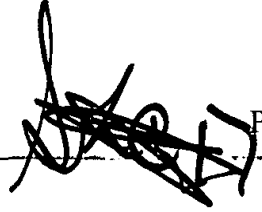
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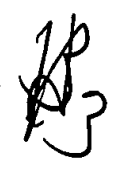
FILED: November 6, 2001

EXAMINER: TORRES, A.M.

TITLE: UNIVERSAL REMOVABLE TOOL-HOLDER TO BE MOUNTED ON A STRADDLING VINEYARD TRACTOR FOR AGRICULTURAL WORK IN TREE OR SHRUB PLANTATIONS

Amendment A: CLAIM AMENDMENTS

 Please cancel the original Claims 1 - 10 and substitute the enclosed new Claims 11 - 19.

 11. (Replacing original Claims 1 and 2) A removable universal tool holder for mounting on a straddling vineyard tractor for agricultural work in tree or shrub plantations, the tool holder comprising:

a primary chassis having means thereon for removable mounting to the tractor;

a first secondary chassis having a universal three-point hitch mechanism connected thereto;

a second secondary chassis having a universal three-point hitch mechanism connected thereto;

a first arm directly connected to and extending between said primary chassis and said first secondary chassis;

a second arm directly connected to and extending between said primary chassis and said second secondary chassis, each of said first and second arms being coupled to said primary chassis by a joint means, said joint means for allowing the pivoting the respective arm in an approximately vertical plane and in an approximately horizontal plane;

a first pivoting means cooperative with said primary chassis and with said first arm for pivoting said first arm in the approximately horizontal plane; and

a second pivoting means cooperative with said primary chassis and with said second arm for pivoting said second arm in the approximately vertical plane and in the approximately horizontal plane.

12. (Replacing original Claim 3) The tool of Claim 11, said first arm comprising a first beam having one end connected by said joint means to said primary chassis and an opposite end connected by said joint means to said first secondary chassis, said first arm further comprising a first tie rod extending parallel to and above said first beam, said second arm comprising a second beam having one end connected by said joint means to said primary chassis and an opposite end connected by said joint means to said second secondary chassis, said second arm further comprising a second tie rod extending parallel to and above said second beam, said first and second arms being of a deformable parallelogram shape.

13. (Replacing original Claim 4) The tool holder of Claim 12, said first pivoting means comprising a first jack positioned below said first arm and connected at opposite ends thereof by a joint to each of said primary chassis and to said first beam, said second pivoting means comprising a second jack positioned below said second arm and connected at opposite ends thereof by a joint to each of said primary chassis and to said second beam.

14. (Replacing original Claim 5) The tool holder of Claim 13, said first arm further comprising a first connecting rod extending parallel to said first beam, said first connecting rod connected to said primary chassis and to said first secondary chassis, said second arm further comprising a second connecting rod extending parallel to said second beam, said second connecting

rod connected to said primary chassis and to said second secondary chassis, the respective connected rod and the respective first beam defining a large side of the parallelogram extending in a plane perpendicular to the vertical plane.

15. (Replacing original Claim 6) The tool holder of Claim 14, said first pivoting means further comprising a third jack arranged laterally relative to said first arm, said third jack connected at opposite ends thereof by respective joints to said primary chassis and to said first beam, said second pivoting means further comprising a fourth jack arranged laterally relative to said second arm, said fourth jack connected at opposite ends thereof by respective joints to said primary chassis and to said second beam.

16. (Replacing original Claim 7) The tool holder of Claim 15, each of said joints being a ball-and-socket joint.

17. (Replacing original Claim 8) the tool holder of Claim 11, further comprising:
a detecting means connected to and oriented downwardly from respectively
said first and second chassis, said detecting means for monitoring a height of the tool holder.

18. (Replacing original Claim 9) The tool holder of Claim 11 further comprising:
a hydraulic motor connected to each of said first and second secondary chassis,
said hydraulic motor having an output shaft with a coupling at an end thereof.

19. (Replacing original Claim 1) The tool holder of Claim 11, further comprising:
stand mounting means interconnected to said primary chassis, said stand
mounting means for removably receiving a stand therein.